

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

N'YORK CITY - Over the years there have been rhubarbs over almost any issue. Some are authentic affairs like the outcry over discrimination practiced on Jackie Robinson when he became the first black in the big leagues. Others have been no bigger than a pinhead. Now here comes a category in between, the beef by black Wendell Scott, the auto racer, that "there are no blacks with enough money to sponsor a driver at the Indianapolis 500." "It's a shame," he moaned, "that a woman got to qualify for the Indy before a black man did. I can't see why, with so many people buying American cars, no big manufacturer has sponsored a black driver. I've never had a sponsor." Great Scott! Why can't some of the Black Enterprise 100 businessmen back Scotty and other talented drivers so they can send the cinders flying at the Indy tracks? Sure as shooting, Wendell, bettin' nobody ever thought blacks can cavort in sports car racing with the same consummate skill they have demonstrated at baseball, basketball, boxing and football. The Indy races, I'm sure, would show no color barrier. It's the money that talks. And sure, there are now blacks with money they could never flash before the Emancipation Proclamation.

BIG SISTERS AID BIG BROTHERS -- The nationally-known Big Brothers movement has adopted a slogan that will melt your very pure strings. It reads: "No man ever stands so straight as when he stoops to help a boy." That motto can now be changed -- "Now woman ever stands so straight as when she stoops to help the Big Brothers." From behind the scenes we can report that some very mighty Big Sisters -- Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald and Liza Minelli -- are coming to headline a laser benefit at the DC Kennedy Center so that 113 Big Brother Chapters can continue to spread cheer and companionship for some 25,000 Little Brothers across the land...My how times have changed! James Brown, whose showbiz magnetism has drawn mostly SRO audiences over the years failed to fill 2,657 seats at a Beacon Theatre Concert. Ditto the peerless Pearl Bailey who was shocked at low attendance at a Dee Dee benefit she headlined.

RCOTS GO DEEP DOWN UNDER -- As reported a while back, Alex Haley's epic opus got black marks in England. The low rating for Roots in merrie olde England was understandable, since a surly scrivener there wrote that Alex hadn't seen ALL of Kunte Kinte's Juffure Birthplace when he was researching his pet project. But looka here: Australia, which also speaks the mother tongue has demonstrated that whether fact or fiction, Haley's book has "achieved the highest rating for a television program in Australia," according to the Down Under firm of McNair Anderson, counterpart to the Nielsen ratings here... Alice Travis Demery who sulked when ABC-TV cast her aside after trying her out for "Good Morning, America," or even as a replacement for Barbara (Million \$ Baby) Walters' "Today" show slot has made it big with her own thing "For You, Black Woman," a syndicated personal brainchild which signed up 30 stations in major cities throughout the U.S.

SCAT, CROTHERS! -- His talents buried under tons of junk for far too long, "Scatman" Crothers hit it big in "Chico and the Man," and got his deserved break. He'll be off and emoting in the Columbia flick, "The Cheap Detective," rated a sure-shot hit-to-be. Yep, time and tide waited for a good man. Scat, Crothers! You're on your way!... A while back we essayed a review of a new fad, The Punks. We tried to show that their weird hairdos colored pink, blue, lavender and even fuchsia, would be a passing fancy. We said that this uncompromising and non-conformist young set, wearing razor blades attached to their earlobes with safety pins, would soon fade away with such passing fancies as swallowing fishbowl fishies during the Thirsty Thirties, and the raids on university dorms for the bloomers worn by the girls of your dreams. No, indeed not, the Punks will not just go away. They are here to stay, they vow, and even have initiated their own

punk rock music now the rage in London and other big city diskeries.

TWO QUESTIONS REQUIRE ANSWERS -- Would you believe that thousands of specially bred British locusts were imprinted to California under strict U.S. Customs and Health Dept. code for uses in a film? The filmmakers needed these pesky props to play up "Pazuzu," which they say is the evil spirit of the air. Now here comes the best part. The film "Exorcist II: The Heretic" is being featured at 725 theatres across the U.S. and Canada with James Earl Jones playing Kokumo, an African. As a young lad, he is portrayed as having been exorcized in a scene with a bunch of locusts. We wanted to report that so you wouldn't be scared out of your wits with the aerial bombardment.

The second query: Did you catch the latest findings in a Gallup Poll often noted for its reports on trivia? Its latest finding is that only a little more than half the American public is aware that the U.S. must import oil and 9% realize that the amount shipped last year was 42%. Here's their breakdown, in part: "52% said don't know." Ha, didn't you feel intellectually stimulated by this significant finding? We gallop to the rescue of Gallup by asking this: "Don't you believe that if all northerners became southerners, less oil would be consumed because you need little heat south of Mason-Dixon? And, if not, who sez so?" just thought we'd keep the heat on...STAY LOOSE.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that two public hearings will be held by the Regional Street and Highway Commission of Clark County in the City of North Las Vegas Council Chambers on July 14, 1977, for the purpose of considering two projects for which financial assistance is being sought from the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, pursuant to the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, generally described as follows:

8:30 am Purchase of five new 45-passenger, air-PDST conditioned diesel transit buses to be leased to Las Vegas Transit System, Inc.

8:45 am Operating assistance for the Economic PDST Opportunity Board's Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Program.

The proposed project applications, the program of UMTA Section 5 projects, the Transit Development Plan, and the draft report describing the environmental, social and economic impacts of the projects are available for public inspection at the Commission's office, 118 South Fourth Street, Las Vegas.

RICHARD J. RONZONE, Chairman

OVER 40,000
LAS VEGANS READ
THE VOICE.
THIS SPACE IS
RESERVED FOR
YOUR VOICE
CLASSIFIED AD

SPALDING MORTUARY



Elder O. L. Jefferson, Counselor
Agent For
Golden State Mutual Insurance.

310 Foremaster Lane 384-9642

The Money Saver!

ONLY WITH THIS COUPON

20% OFF

20% OFF

Fashion's West

A VERY UNIQUE BOUTIQUE
FOR MEN AND LADIES

1058 N. RANCHO DRIVE • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102
Phone 648-3956

COUPON GOOD UNTIL
JULY 30, 1977

20% OFF

20% OFF

